

APPLICANT(S): MERON, Gavriel et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/046,541
FILED: January 16, 2002
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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 51, 53-55, 57-60 and 63-67 are pending in the application.

Claims 55, 57-59 and 63-67 have been objected to.

Claims 51, 53-55, 57-60 and 63-67 have been rejected.

Claims 51, 54, 55, 63 and 66 have been amended.

Claims 57-59 and 67 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In making this cancellation without prejudice, Applicants reserve all rights in these claims to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

Applicants respectfully assert that the amendments to the claims, specification and abstracts, add no new matter.

Remarks to the Abstract

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Abstract because the abstract no longer applies to the claimed invention. The abstract has been amended to better describe the claimed inventions.

Remarks to the Specification

The specification was amended to add the reference numerals 65, 66 and 67 that appear in Fig. 6. The amendment is editorial in nature and do not introduce new matter.

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Claim Objections

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claims 55, 57-59 and 63-67 because of alleged informalities. Claims 55, 63 and 67 has been amended in order to cure these informalities. Claims 57-59 and 67 have been cancelled, thus, the objection to these claims is now moot. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the objection.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 51, 53-55, 57-58, 60 and 63-67 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Ouchi (US 6,547,723) in view of Ueda et al. (US 5,681,260).

Claims 57-58 and 67 have been cancelled. Thus, the Examiner's rejection to these claim, is now moot.

Without conceding to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants believe that the remaining claims, as amended, overcome the cited prior art.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Ouchi (US 6,547,723) in view of Ueda et al. (US 5,681,260) and further in view of Hogrefe et al. (US 5,415,181).

Claim 59 had been cancelled. Thus, the Examiner's rejection to this claim is now moot.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,

/Guy Yonay/

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Dated: November 19, 2008

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